Application No. 10/776,405 Amendment Dated March 5, 2007 Reply to Office Action of January 4, 2007

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated January 4, 2007, claims 5-24 and 26 were examined with the result that the claims were subjected to a restriction/election requirement by the Examiner. In the present Amendment, applicant has elected one of the two groups of inventions, and has identified the claims encompassing the elected invention. In view of this election and the following remarks, reconsideration of this application is requested.

In the present response, applicant has elected claims 5-9 and 26 drawn to a titanium based ceramic composite coating material for further prosecution. All claims 5-9 and 26 read on the elected invention.

Claims 10-24 drawn to a method of producing a coating have been withdrawn from further consideration as being directed toward a non-elected invention. However, applicant reserves its right to file a divisional application on these claims in the future.

Examination on the merits of claims 5-9 and 26 is herein requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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